

Humane Society of Elmore County News - 8 Mar '15  
Rea Cord  
Executive Director

HUGE thanks to the Predator's Motorcycle Association and to all who donated for a tremendously successful supply drive for us at the Wetumpka Walmart on Saturday! They brought us a pickup truck absolutely loaded with food and supplies to help our pets! We so appreciate all their help as they are ramping up with events like this to ensure that the 9 May '15 Cruisin' fer Critters is another HUGE success! They have two more supply drives scheduled on 28 March from 10-2 at the Tallassee Walmart AND the Wetumpka Walmart! Cub Scout Troop 429 will actually be heading up the supply drive that day here in Wetumpka and we want to thank all those boys and parents for jumping in to help us like this! We are so thankful to so many wonderful animal loving people who help us deal with the results of others who apparently don't feel the same about their pets given the large number of abandoned pets all shelters deal with.

Abandoned is one word is one we hear far too much at our shelter. Our dogs and cats are domesticated animals that are no longer truly capable of 'living off the land' no matter what some may think. They depend on us for their care and well-being which is why abandoning a dog or cat is not only morally wrong, but punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor as Cruelty to Animals under the Alabama Code Section 13A-11-240(b). This code states: "the word "cruel" as used in this article shall mean: Every act, omission, or neglect, including abandonment, where unnecessary or unjustifiable pain or suffering, including abandonment, is caused or where unnecessary pain or suffering is allowed to continue."

Is abandonment a significant problem in our area? YES!! Every week we deal with pets that have been dumped out on roads and other's property, left in homes and yards after their owners have moved, left alone with no provisions for care when the owners go on extended vacation, thrown out of moving vehicles, etc. It is unfathomable to those of us who care about animal welfare that a fellow human could do something so despicable yet most who do go unpunished and others are left to do their best to care for these often unexpected pets that end up at their front door.

No matter how mad we may be at the people who dump these pets, we commend all the people who take them in, pick them up off the side of road, take the sick and injured to veterinarians, try to find the owners and do all they can to help these scared and bewildered pets who wanted so little in return for their loyalty.

These abandoned pet are a huge reason for shelter's existence and since almost 30% of our intake are pets surrendered by their owners, so there is absolutely no reason for any pet to be discarded or abandoned by their owner. We would much rather have an owner surrender a pet they can no longer keep than abandon that pet to a potentially terrible fate. To that end we are open for intake six days every week, Mon-Fri 8-5 & Sat 8-3 and we do promise to do everything in our power to find loving & committed homes for as many of our pets as we possibly can.

If you have any questions about surrendering a pet or if you have found a stray or believe an animal to have been abandoned please call your local animal control office/law enforcement or contact us at 334-567-3377 or email [hselco@bellsouth.net](mailto:hselco@bellsouth.net) for assistance.